

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'  
**MILLENNIAL STAR**

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

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**Nauvoo's Home Of The First Relief Society**

*Where 94 Years Of Mormon Women's Social Service Began*

(See article page 162)

## THIS IS PURE RELIGION

By DR. M. LYNN BENNION

OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL GENERAL BOARD

**M**ATZEMN, the Italian philosopher, defined democracy as "The progress of all, through all, under the leadership of the wisest and best." I believe this definition is applicable to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. During 1934 there were 84,042 officers and teachers in the auxiliary organizations. There were 15,167 Relief Society officers, exclusive of Visiting Teachers. Practically every Latter-day Saint has an opportunity to lead in some capacity, and follow in many capacities. This mass participation in spiritual activity is the key to spiritual development. Truly it is "the progress of all, through all, under the leadership of the wisest and best."

### During Nauvoo Days

NINETY-FOUR years ago March 17 in a large hall (see cover) in Nauvoo, Illinois the Prophet Joseph Smith organized the Relief Society of the Church. It is perhaps the oldest woman's organization in the United States which has continually persisted.

Extending into more than twenty countries, the Relief Society today comprises more than 1700 ward and branch organizations, with more than 70,000 members. In Britain there are 56 branch organizations, 553 members.

Sister Louise Y. Robison (see cut) is general president of the Relief Society. In 1934 she represented (with eight others) the American National Council of Women at the quinquennial meeting of the International Council of Women in Paris (*Star* June 21, 1934).

This article, treating the activities and study courses of this organization, should appeal to all *Star* readers.

I was greatly impressed when I read of the purpose in founding the Relief Society. A broader, more comprehensive foundation for spirituality can scarcely be imagined than the goal set by the founders of this great organization nearly a century ago. They are:

To manifest benevolence; to care for the poor, the sick and unfortunate; to minister where death reigns; to assist in correcting the morals and strengthening the virtues of community life; to raise human life to its highest level; to elevate and enlarge the scope of women's activities and conditions; to foster love for religion, education, culture and refinement; to develop faith; to save souls; to study and teach the Gospel.

### *Spiritual Growth Through the Study of Social Service:*

To develop spirituality through the promotion of human welfare is the primary aim of the Relief Society. The task of ministering to the needs of people demands a loving heart and a high order of intelligence. The Relief Society has not been content to pass out charity, but has sought,

through a Social Service course of study, to understand the complex problems inherent in health, education, sanitation, poverty, crime, child welfare and personality development.

Christ gives us a picture of the ideal social welfare case worker. The Good Samaritan knew what needed to be done for the

man in need, and he did it. I enjoy trying to read into Bible characters more than is apparent from the brief account given. The Good Samaritan was a student of human nature and also a lover of mankind. His heart and mind were prepared for this service. He had rendered already great services to many and through that experience was a finely developed personality. This is why he rendered such intelligent and loving service in the Bible story. Do not be discouraged over the slowness of your own development. Spiritual development is usually a slow, gradual process. It is like the ear of corn which produced first the blade, then the ear, then the corn in the ear.

It is far better to pray for and visit the sick than to merely define religion in terms of visiting the sick.

It is the application of knowledge for the spiritual welfare of man that constitutes the Mormon ideal of education.

Now I believe the Relief Society is ahead in this programme. It has had much of the actual work of relieving the poor, caring for the sick, clothing the naked. It has met the actual problems, and it is in the solution of problems that the highest spiritual growth lies. It calls for the best that is in you and it makes you thoughtful of the ills of mankind.

I see in the Social Service work of the Relief Society the very essence

of "pure religion." Those who give most will grow most and live most abundantly.

*Spiritual Growth Through the Study of Literature :*

All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been ; it is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of Books.—Carlyle.

Seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom, seek learning even by study, and also by faith. (Doctrine and Covenants 88 : 118.)

Brigham Young grasped the significance of that commandment. "I want to have schools," he said, "to entertain the minds of the people and draw them out to learn the arts and sciences. . . . Education is the power to think clearly, the power to act well in the world's work, and the power to appreciate life."

Longfellow was asked by a student at Harvard University, "How is it, Mr. Longfellow, that after all these years of teaching you remain so fresh in your point of view, and so stimulating?" The wise old teacher pointed to a peach orchard through the window, and said, "You see some of those trees are young, and some are old. The old ones grow enough new wood each year to produce beautiful fragrant blossoms. I try to read and study enough to keep alive mentally." Another great teacher said, "I want my students to drink from a running stream and not a stagnant pool." We are all teachers in this Church of ours.

One of the surest guarantees that your family and friends



LOUISE Y. ROBISON

She is the Relief Society's General President

will grow spiritually is that you yourself are expanding in the good life. Think of the power Christ had to stimulate people. "One half of my goods I give to the poor," said Zacchens, the mercenary little tax collector, in response to the appeal of the Master, "and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold." What a glorious spiritual response to a superb Teacher and a great Personality.

**R**ICHARD C. CABOT, scholar, teacher of ethics at Harvard University, and fine Christian, said: "I caught my religion by contagion through contact with people." This man has met with the great and noble of all ages through the pages of literature. He mentioned also his indebtedness to two living people—Dr. Grenfell, physician, who left the comforts of a London home to serve the Eskimos on the bleak coasts of Labrador. "When I was with Grenfell," said Dr. Cabot, "Jesus Christ seemed not more than five feet away." The other person who touched and melted Cabot was Jane Addams, that good woman of great sympathy and understanding, who sought to serve others.

No one can estimate the stimulus of spiritual growth that will come to you through a literary course of study. Its influence will be felt in your home and in your communities. A teacher of literature recently asked a visiting mother at school, "In what college did you study literature?" The mother replied, "I received my training through the Relief Society."

*Spiritual Growth Through the Study of Theology:*

The most important channel for spiritual growth offered Relief Society members is through the study of theology. Perhaps the most valuable lesson gained from this study is the knowledge that we are the children of God, made in His image, having His attributes in eubryo and destined to become like Him. This definition of man is a great contrast to one I recently heard: "Man is a small but boisterous bit of organic scum which for the time being coats one of the lesser planets." Man needs to understand the nature of his origin, for it will help him to bring unity and oneness to the inner life.

Gospel study will help you to live in harmony with the will of God. What has brought traditional religion into disrepute with many people? It is because some have allowed religion, or spirituality, to become a department of life instead of the core and heart of life. They have locked it up in a water-tight compartment so that it does not influence the whole of life. The same disuse has affected our educational system.

Not only must we study the Gospel, but we must live it. Christ challenges us to make the test. "If any man will do my will he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God or whether I speak of myself." Study the Gospel and honestly live the Gospel and you will have the ability and disposition to control your conduct in accordance with Gospel principles, and that is Mormon character!

I have made this discovery: most people who are dissatisfied with God's plan of life, and who seek some new experiment, do not understand God's laws and have never fairly tried them out.

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## RELIEF SOCIETY ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

*By Emily T. Merrill\**

ANOTHER year has passed and again the anniversary date of the founding of the Relief Society is at hand. For the meetings celebrating this event I send hearty greetings to all of the Relief Society officers and members throughout the European mission.

For youth anniversary days represent just another step toward the goal of its ambitions; youth looks forward and not backward. For people of mature years anniversaries sometimes occasion more serious reflections—reflections about problems and difficulties of daily life. These difficulties may have been brought about by unwise judgment and conduct of our own or by unkind and inconsiderate acts of others or by other circumstances beyond our control. We may have made hasty, unwise decisions which could have been avoided by a little patience.



EMILY T. MERRILL

She Sends Her Good Wishes  
to British Workers

Patience is one of the greatest Christian virtues and one that none of us can hope to possess without an effort. It is a great virtue because it contemplates love, faith, suspension of judgment and, most of all, the ability to wait. It is a modest virtue. It makes no great show. It gets little publicity, and very often no recognition and no thanks. But it is a lovely virtue when one examines it. Patience requires strong personal self-control, so can never be exercised without exerting the will.

Why should one be patient in the face of difficulty and disappointment? Because one believes it is Christ-like to do so and good will result. Just as a farmer looks at his desolate fields in the cold, bleak days of winter and goes on quietly with some work that he can do, knowing that before very long his faith and his patience will be justified in the buds and shoots and tender leaves of Spring. And we can only look at human life like that, without losing temper and patience and hope, when everything in it seems cold and hard and unfriendly, if we too believe that some day, provided that we can wait long enough, beauty and goodness will come breaking through. Faith as well as love is a necessary part of patience.

Then there must also be self-control; control of the tongue—to keep back hot and hasty words; control of the mind—to keep out resentful and despairing thoughts; control of the will and control of the heart—to prevent bitterness because our hopes and

\*Consulting Adviser of European Mission Women's Auxiliaries.

our faith remain so long unfulfilled. If we can do all these things, then we have patience, a godlike virtue.

When we look at human nature, whether in the aggregate as it is in the world as we see it, or on a small scale as we find it in ourselves, we must be amazed at the patience of God. When we read the life of Christ and consider Him who endured so much, even unto death, we must bow our heads before the wonderful patience of God manifested by permitting His Only Begotten and most beloved Son thus to suffer.

Perhaps if we think of patience in this way, it may help us in our life with our fellowmen. We may not understand what makes one person so unreasonable, so stubborn and unresponsive to the friendliness that we have tried to show. Perhaps if we knew, we might find something that would move us to sympathy. We must go on living by faith and must be patient.

Let us be as patient as we can with one another. So many things come right with time. The best that is in us is slow many times in showing itself. Let us work and labour one with another in patience, characterized by faith and love.

Dear sisters, "We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous and in doing good to all men." We believe in and accept all the virtues taught by word and by action by Jesus Christ. Shall we not uphold the ideals of our Society and practise these virtues in our daily lives? To do so will be to increase our joy of living. May health, peace, and joy be given to you all in rich abundance.

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## THIS IS PURE RELIGION

*(Concluded from page 150)*

Why should you study theology? Because religion is the core and heart of life. It is the glowing center of all values whatsoever. It is a positive, creative, dynamic and integrating power that makes all our relationships in the family, in our vocations, in our intellectual pursuits, in enjoyment and in moral conduct, beautiful and God-like. To be a fine Latter-day Saint is a great achievement of a life-time, for it means a life of devoted study and growth-promoting experience.

"Man is that he might have joy." Obedience to divine laws brings divine joy. Recall with me now the most joyful experiences of your life. They are spiritual in their nature. There is no expression of the mind or the body that man cannot have in its highest, most thrilling and most lofty form through the Gospel.

The Relief Society members have a splendid Adult Education course of study. It comprises a study which seeks broadly to discover truth and beauty. Most important they have remarkable opportunities to apply the knowledge gained in the interests of human welfare. That is the sure avenue of spiritual growth. Our women in the Church do have spiritual experience in great abundance. That is why they are so fine, so sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. May God ever bless them.—(Adapted from a sermon delivered at the semi-annual Relief Society Conference in Salt Lake City, October 3, 1935.)

TO RELIEF SOCIETY SISTERS OF BRITAIN
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**WE** feel that the past year has been one of progress for the Relief Societies of the British Isles. We are deeply appreciative of the earnest efforts which the Sisters have put forth in this work.

We are delighted to inform the Sisters that the British mission Relief Society board has been enlarged. The new members are: Sister Alice Blainey, supervisor of London district; Sister Maud Hawkes, president of the North London branch Relief Society; Sister Elise Mace; Sister Elizabeth Cornwall; Sister Gertrude Horlacher, and Sister Laura Dimler. These last four sisters will labour as board representatives in a number of the districts during the coming year.



RAMONA W. CANNON

She presides in Britain's Relief Society

We have been made particularly happy by the reports that have come in to the effect that the lessons are being enjoyed, and that a peaceful, pleasant spirit pervades the meetings, making it possible for the Spirit of the Lord to abide there. "I have a feeling of exaltation at the Relief Society meetings that I get nowhere else," remarked one Sister.

Some of the branches prefer to call their singing groups The Singing Mothers and Daughters. This change of name is agreeable, if preferred. The music rendered by these singers has been a pleasant addition to the conferences, and to many Sunday evening sacrament meetings. Recently,

at the Bristol conference, a professional singer from the community rendered some numbers. He and his accompanist heard the Singing Mothers, and the accompanist invited them to appear before a mothers' club in the city to take part on the programme.

The two services of song, arranged by Sister Edith Holt of Hyde branch, and given under the direction of Sister Florence Allsop and the Singing Mothers there, received favourable comment.

At Liverpool district conference, under the direction of Supervisor Lillian Moore, a hot dinner and "tea" were provided at 3d. per meal. No money was lost. The Sisters should not impoverish their treasuries, nor overwork themselves, nor miss their meetings, in the cause of food at our conferences.

Speaking of attendance, there has been an increase of six or more in South Shields, Manchester, Bradford, Plymouth, Preston and Hull this year.

Sister Beatrice Cussans, president of Belfast Relief Society, writes how very much they are enjoying their work.

For the coming year, may we make a few suggestions that the

*(Continued on page 172)*

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1936

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EDITORIAL

HOW TO GET PRAYERS ANSWERED

“**T**HERE is no royal road to learning.” This is a time-honoured maxim which expresses a fact taught by experience to every successful student. The same idea is involved in the proverb “there is no excellence without labour.” We note these two universally accepted adages to forestall at once any hope that we are going to indicate an easy way of winning divine favour. So far as this writer knows there is no such way. Yet God’s favour can be won and He will and does answer prayer. We make these declarations positively and unequivocally. Our authority for them is personal experience and holy scriptures.

We are now in the midst of the Lenten season, one in which fasting, prayer, and repentance are given special prominence by some Christian denominations. These qualities are all necessary factors in acceptable Christian conduct and worship. Hence they will be observed by sincere and informed Christians, not only during Lent, but during the remainder of the year as well. But because so many churches are at this time emphasizing prayer it is an opportune time to indicate how we can get our prayers answered. We are all deeply interested in the solution of this problem.

First of all, we are enjoined to pray. The Apostle James wrote: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.” (James 1 : 5. See also Matthew 7 : 7-8 ; Luke 11 : 9-13.) This injunction applies to everyone of us. We all lack wisdom—we all need divine guidance, not only during Lent but during every day of the year. Hence to pray daily is a practice that every one should cultivate. Even the Master, when He lived among men, was given to prayer, evidently finding it a desirable way of communing with His Father in heaven. (Matthew 14 : 23 ; Luke 6 : 12 ; 9 : 18, 28 ; 11 : 1, etc.) The Apostles also, following the example of their Master, indulged in frequent prayer. (Acts 1 : 14 ; 6 : 4, etc.) The saints, also, were urged to pray always. (Ephesians 6 : 18 ; 1 Thessalonians 5 : 17.) Prayer has always been a form of approach to God used by the devout. A few of the many references in the New Testament to this subject are indicated above. There are many very explicit ones in modern revelation, printed in the Doctrine and Covenants. In this book in numerous places the saints are reminded of their duty to pray, to pray always, lest they fall into temptation.



But how to get prayers answered is something everyone would like to know. And yet everyone that prays probably knows already and needs no further information on this point. He will know, for instance, that in our reference to the Apostle James we indicated only the fifth verse. The sixth and seventh verses read as follows: "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord."

Hence faith, a humble soul-devotion and assurance that God lives and in His loving mercy will hear the earnest petition, is necessary if the prayer is answered. The prayer, then, must be very much more than a mere lip expression. It must be the soul's sincerest desire and expressive of a real beneficial need. Probably very few so-called prayers meet the conditions named by the Apostle James as necessary to call down an answer from heaven. The necessary faith frequently cannot be developed for one or more of many different reasons. To pray acceptably is not an easy thing for many people to do. Selfish motives, for example, will be a handicap. But the pure in heart—pure in purpose—will have no difficulty.

There is one thing, however, that the person who expects an answer to his prayers should always do—help the Lord to answer the prayer. Is this a strange statement? It means that we should always try to be worthy of having our prayers answered. Why pray for good health unless we are willing to observe the laws of health? Shall we expect the Lord to do for us what we can do for ourselves? Can we expect the Lord to preserve us from doing wrong if we deliberately walk into temptation? "There is a law, irrevocably decreed in heaven before the foundations of this world, upon which all blessings are predicated, and when we obtain any blessing from God, it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated." (Doctrine and Covenants 130: 20, 21.)

We can surely get an answer to our prayers when we pray worthily with sufficient faith for needed things that will be for our ultimate good. Let us always help the Lord to answer our prayers by fulfilling all the necessary conditions. We then pray worthily.—JOSEPH F. MERRILL.

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### DISTRICT CONFERENCE NOTICES

PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. MERRILL and President Joseph J. Cannon will be the principal speakers at Manchester district conference in Rochdale Town Hall Sunday, March 15, sessions beginning at 11 a.m., 2:30 and 6 p.m. A concert will be held the preceding Saturday evening at 7 p.m. in the Manchester branch hall, 88 Clarendon road.

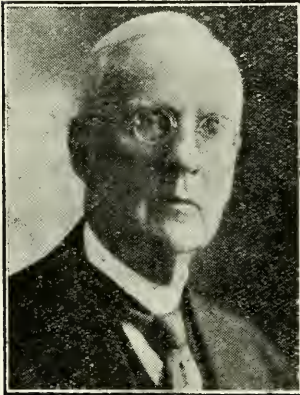
Irish district conference will convene in Belfast Sunday, March 22, meetings commencing at 11 a.m., 2:30 and 7 p.m. Place of meeting will be announced in next week's *Star*.

## THIS WEEK IN MORMON HISTORY

### President Clawson's Life—A Sermon Of Courage And Devotion

FOR I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation, to every one that believeth. . . .

**T**HOSE memorable words to the Romans breathe the spirit of the man who wrote them. Paul was a humble but intrepid lawyer who devoted the last thirty years of his life in fearlessly proclaiming the message of the Gospel. Stoned at Lystra, scourged and imprisoned at Philippi, hounded and threatened by an angry mob in Thessalonica and Berea and throughout the remainder of his life, he stood steadfast with the courage of only one who has the will to "endureth to the end."



PRESIDENT CLAWSON

He offered his life for the  
Gospel's sake

Those words of the ancient Apostle also characterize the life of a modern Apostle. He is an Apostle in the same Church of Jesus Christ for which Paul served, restored in these latter days. He is President Ruderger Clawson, present President of the Council of Twelve Apostles, whose seventy-ninth birthday anniversary is **March 12**. He was born in Salt Lake City in 1857, the son of Hiram B. Clawson and Margaret Gay Judd.

Down through the eventful years of President Clawson's life are many dark days, clouded with peril and persecution. He has faced the firearms of felons who shot down his companion before his own eyes in the State of Georgia. In Britain he has seen incensed mobs hurl missiles and oaths at gatherings of the saints, shattering chapel windows. He is not unfamiliar with the shadows of prison walls.

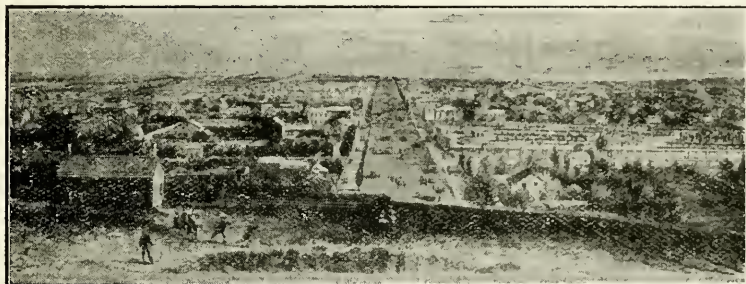
Through all of these vicissitudes he has not been "ashamed of the gospel of Christ" for which he was persecuted. Rather, he has stood with all of the firmness of granite. President Clawson has lived to see the tide go out. The lashing waves of oppression, moved by winds of falsehood and malignity, that beat against the Church in those early days have disappeared. The tempest has quieted. Calumnies have become encomiums. Only in the past few months in the Southern States, where 57 years ago President Clawson faced the levelled guns of mobsters, a Latter-day Saint chapel was dedicated. Civic officials, including the mayor and members of the city council (Columbia, Mississippi) attended the dedicatory services at the chapel, described as the most beautiful place of worship in the city. While visiting in the Southern States at the time Apostle Melvin J. Ballard gave radio addresses in three of the South's large cities,

This respect for the Church today is all a satisfying contrast to the early missionary days of President Clawson. One experience in the Southern States in particular brings out his fearless character and the testimony that burns within his soul.

It was a bright Sabbath morning on a quiet path in sylvan Georgia in the summer of 1879. Elder Clawson, then 22 years of age, and Elder Joseph Standing, three years his senior, walked along together enjoying the tranquility and warmth of that July day. But presently the quietude was interrupted with the sound of hoofs. Three horsemen drew up. They ordered the elders to halt.

"We've got them. We've got them," one of the three shouted. He beckoned to nine others on foot. All drew around their captives. The 12 of them were armed with clubs, pistols and guns.

The elders asked to see the warrant and enquired by what



SALT LAKE CITY IN 1865

As the Pioneer City appeared during the boyhood of President Clawson

authority they were apprehended. The answer was a blasphemous reproof. Guarded by flourishing weapons and heckled with vile insinuations, the elders were led to an opening in the wood. There Elder Standing was permitted to slake his thirst. Upon arising, he wheeled quickly and shouted, "Surrender!" A bullet from a mobster's gun pierced his right eye, and he fell to the ground.

Fingers on triggers, all of the mob rose to their feet. "Shoot that man," one of them commanded, pointing to Elder Clawson. Twelve muzzles levelled on him. With the same calmness and courage of Paul, he folded his arms and answered, "Shoot!" A change came over the gunmen. Their weapons were lowered, and Elder Clawson was permitted, at his bold petition, to seek help for his dying companion. Later he accompanied the dead body to Salt Lake City for burial.

During his presidency of the European and British Mission (1910-13) President Clawson again experienced bitter days. On one occasion (November 17, 1912) he was jeered by a hooting and booing throng of nearly two thousand and then followed from the meeting place by the milling mob through Bristol's streets. But he did not quail, and the crowd dispersed without molesting him.

These stories give an index to the character of the man who stands at the head of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles today, of a man ready to die for the testimony of the Gospel he knows to be the restored word of Christ.

President Clawson, who became a member of the Council of Twelve October 10, 1898, is the oldest living Apostle. Once asked what factor was most potent in aiding him to realize success in this life, he replied :

My success in life, if I have attained to any, is due to a fixed and unyielding determination on my part to seek and abide by counsel. I know there is safety in counsel, and that he who turns therefrom and seeks to become a law unto himself must surely fall.

Indeed the life of President Clawson is a sermon of steadfastness, of courage of conviction and of unwavering devotion to the cause of the Lord.

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### Other Anniversaries This Week

**March 12, 1859**—Birth in Salt Lake City of Apostle Abraham H. Cannon, son of President George Q. Cannon and Elizabeth Hoagland. He served on a mission in Nottingham district in 1879, later labouring in Germany; was set apart as one of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies October 9, 1882 and ordained an Apostle October 7, 1889. He died July 19, 1896 in Salt Lake City. He was outstanding as a journalist.

**March 13, 1857**—Birth in Warrington, Lancashire of Elder B. H. Roberts, one of the Seven Presidents of Seventies and a prominent expositor of Church history and doctrine. Set apart as one of the Seven Presidents October 8, 1888, he died in Salt Lake City September 27, 1933.

**March 15, 1842**—The *Millennial Star* editorial and printing offices were transferred from Manchester to 36 Chapel street, Liverpool, with Parley P. Pratt remaining editor.

**March 17, 1842**—The Relief Society was organized at Nauvoo, Illinois (see page 162).

**March 18, 1833**—Sidney Rigdon and Frederick G. Williams were set apart by President Joseph Smith as first and second counsellors, respectively in the initial First Presidency of the Church in this dispensation.—WENDELL J. ASHTON.

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### TO RELIEF SOCIETY SISTERS IN BRITAIN

(Concluded from page 167)

Relief Society workers will do well to keep in mind? The visits to the members of the branch, and particularly to the sick and homebound are of the utmost importance. We suggest this procedure for visiting teachers: Rid your own mind of any disquiet before going into the homes of others. Begin these visits with a prayer in your own home before leaving. Try to give comfort, but make an effort to lead the sisters into new conversation, rather than letting them tell you the story of their troubles for the hundredth time. If you find it difficult to talk on the Proverbs topic discussed in the classes, try something else arising from the Bible Project. Make the effort to leave the spiritual reservoirs

of the people into whose homes you go more full than they were when you came.

Please try to follow the monthly projects faithfully. These are designed primarily to increase attendance. We wish to share this glorious Gospel with others. That is the sacred obligation laid upon all of us. It is not *a* gospel, it is *the* Gospel.

We wish to extend to all Relief Society workers our love and blessing, and our gratitude for past cooperation. In closing may we also express the feelings of the General Board Relief Society members in Salt Lake City in their own words :

Although some of us are separated by long distances of land and sea, . . . there is an invisible tie that holds and binds us so closely together in fellowship, love and affection, that it seems almost as if we were near enough to reach out in the distance and clasp hands. . . .

With all these blessings and privileges, let us go forward with faith and courage, fortified by an unreserved compliance with the laws and ordinances of the Gospel. Let us use our efforts and our strength to combat all evil, and to help to establish righteousness in the earth as a preparation for the second coming of our Lord and Saviour.

Sincerely your Sisters,

RAMONA W. CANNON  
INEZ CAMERON RUSSELL  
HELEN E. M. POOLE

Presidency of British Mission Relief Society

### OF CURRENT INTEREST

**Observance**—That the British people are in sympathy with greater observance of the Sabbath is indicated in the vote of 191 to 8 in the House of Commons in agreement with the second reading of the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Bill, providing legislation for curbing the increase in shop openings on Sunday. Cheers in the House followed the remarks of Mr. G. W. Lloyd (Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Home Office), who said that the Government favoured the principles underlying the bill and that there was a larger measure of Sunday opening in Britain than is necessary (February 21).

**Rhineland**—Italy's campaign in Ethiopia pushed into the background, all Europe watches Germany. Another blow has been dealt the Treaty of Versailles and Locarno. German troops have moved into the Rhineland (a German strip along the Franco-German frontier about the size of Ireland), which was demilitarized under Versailles, and the measure confirmed under Locarno. Chancellor Hitler's move is generally viewed as a protest against the Franco-Russian

Mutual Assistance Pact, which the German Leader described in his March 7 speech as unfriendly. The French Chamber ratified the Pact in February. The Senate votes on it this week. In sending troops into the Rhineland, Hitler offered the following new agreements: (1) formation of a mutual demilitarized zone with France and Belgium; (2) Germany's willingness to conclude a western air pact to eliminate dangers of an air attack; (3) Germany's willingness to conclude non-aggression pacts with her eastern neighbours; Germany's willingness to reenter the League of Nations, providing she is accepted according to her terms.

**Chess**—What is believed to be the first international chess match between the United States and Great Britain is now in progress. Beginning early in 1936, the match, conducted by correspondence, will finish June 30, 1938. Selected as one of Britain's representatives by Mr. W. Ritson Morry, match captain, is President Fred E. Simmonds of Letchworth branch (London district). His opponent is W. W. Sylvester of Madison, Wisconsin.

## LIVERPOOL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THE Lord is not responsible for war, but men, through exercising their free agency, bring it upon themselves, it was explained by President Joseph F. Merrill in the evening session of Liverpool district conference at Burnley branch chapel in Rose Grove, Sunday, March 1. President Merrill told 225 listeners that if they would live the principles of the Gospel they would be a power for peace and goodwill in their communities.

Speaking at the same meeting, President Joseph J. Cannon answered a list of questions that had been handed in. He stated that the Church stood for peace and against poverty, but it had allowed its members in all countries to go to war. However, it never forced the conscience of a conscientious objector. Neither did it try to determine the beliefs of its members

on economic questions. Its only pattern is the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Other speakers in the evening meeting, conducted by District President Fred Bradbury, were Elders William F. Homer and Wendell J. Ashton of the London office. A sacrament and testimony meeting was held in the afternoon. President Cannon also spoke.

Sister Ramona W. Cannon, Mission Relief Society president, conducted a model Sunday School in the morning. Other speakers at this session were Supervising Elder Spencer J. Klomp, Elder David Y. Rogers and President Bradbury.

Musical numbers at the conference were furnished by the Singing Mothers and the Mission M Men quartette.

A social and concert was held the preceding Saturday evening.

## NEWS OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

**Headquarters** of the French mission will be transferred March 15 from Paris, France to 65 Rue De Campine, Liege Belgium, according to President Octave F. Ursenbach, French mission president. President Joseph F. Merrill of the European mission visited Liege February 23 and approved the change. A dignified chapel is located in Liege, and the transfer will add new impetus as well as convenience to the missionary work. Offices of the Palestine-Syrian mission, of which Brother B. Piranian is president, were recently changed from Haifa, Palestine to Rue Sioufi, Archrafie, Beirut, Lebanon.

**Representative** of the United States on a League of Nations Committee for the study of international loan contracts is a distinguished position to which President J. Renben Clark Jr. of the First Presidency has recently been named. The request to serve on this important committee came to President Clark in a communication from J. Avenol (France), secretary-general of the League. The committee will hold its first meeting at Geneva, April 27, 1936.

The proposed body is a result of action taken by the League Assembly (*Star* Feb. 13), inviting the League Council to arrange for a committee of experts "to examine means for improving contracts relating to international loans." President Clark is president of America's Foreign Bondholders' Protective Council. Others who will serve on the League Committee are: M. L. Barenski, director-general of the Bank of Poland (Poland); M. L. Basdevant, Jurisconsulte de Ministere des Affaires etrangeres, Paris (France); Mr. A. Fachiri, barrister-at-law (Britain); M. Colay, director-general de la Societe de Banque Suisse a Bale (Switzerland); M. A. Janssen, member of the financial committee (Belgium); M. C. E. ter Neulen, member of the financial committee (Netherlands); M. O. Moreau-Neret, director du credit Lyonnais (France); Sir Otto Niemeyer, British Controller of Finance (1922-27) and member of the League Finance Committee (Britain); Dr. V. Pospisil, member of the League Financial Committee (Czechoslovakia), and M. C. Tumedei, member of the League Financial Committee (Italy).

## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Arrivals**—Arriving on the s.s. *Manhattan* March 3, new elders were assigned to the following districts: Elder William Byron Hawkins (La Grande, Oregon), Birmingham; Elder Norman H. Roberts (Paris, Idaho), Nottingham, and Elder Russell Barnes Beard (Salt Lake City, Utah), Norwich. Elder Christian J. Draayer (Clearfield, Utah) was assigned to the London district March 6.

**Releases**—Elder Ralph E. Baddley, who has laboured in Portsmouth, Scottish and Bristol districts (supervising elder of the latter) and as European Mission secretary, and Elder Stephen R. Murdock, who has laboured in Liverpool and Birmingham districts (supervising elder of the latter) were honourably released March 10. Elder Baddley returns to his Salt Lake City, Utah home, Elder Murdock to his Provo, Utah home. Elder Ira A. Newsome, who has laboured in Birmingham and Norwich districts was honourably released March 7 to return to his Salt Lake City, Utah home.

**Appointments**—Elder Frank E. Ellis was named London district supervising elder February 14, and Elder Dudley M. Leavitt was ap-

pointed Irish district supervising elder February 12.

**Transfers**—Transferred February 25 were Elder Parley P. Giles, from London to Irish district, and Elder Rex B. Blake, from Bristol to Birmingham district. Other transfers include: Elder Dudley M. Leavitt, from Nottingham to Irish district, February 11; Elder Keith M. Macfarlane, from Irish to Scottish district, February 12; Elder Melvin M. Richards, from Manchester to Leeds district February 15; and Elder David C. Thomas, from Hull district to the British Mission office to assist with the Mission Red Indian demonstration. Elder Dean W. Francis was transferred from Scottish to London district March 5.

### Rotary Hears Mormonism

PRESIDENT JOSEPH J. CANNON spoke before Burnley Rotary Club at noon and before Paddingham Toc H club in the evening Monday, March 2. The Mission M Men quartette sang numbers at both meetings. "England and America For Peace" was President Cannon's subject at the Rotary meeting. He told the 75 members about the Latter-day Saint missionary system and showed how former Mormon missionaries to Britain now occupied leading positions in America's government. At the close of his remarks a Rotarian arose and said that his son, working in south England, was boarding with two Latter-day Saint traveling elders. He said his son wrote him that he had never met two young men who were more outstanding for their integrity and probity.

President Cannon talked on "Man's Eternal Journey" before the Toc H group, explaining that Mormonism teaches that we had an existence in the spirit before this earth-life and that men will continue to progress, according to their deserts, throughout eternity.

**Doings in the Districts: Manchester**—Sponsored by the Gleaner Girls, a Valentine party was held Saturday, February 15, in aid of the branch building fund, in Hyde branch hall. Games, songs, novelties and dancing contributed to the programme which was followed by refreshments.

Primary children presented a special programme in Hyde branch

hall Sunday, February 16. The theme was a playlet, *Children's Garden of Song*. A Seagull Girl, Marion Stone, conducted the presentation and another Seagull, Marion Humer, led the singing. Presided over by Sister Jessie Bishop, the programme also included talks by Sister Sarah Allsop, district supervisor, Elder Woodrow D. Marriott and District President William Gregson.

**Sheffield**—On a stage decorated as a flower garden, Primary children of Sheffield branch presented the Sunday evening programme in Sheffield branch February 23. Participants on the programme, featuring the playlet, *Children's Garden of Song*, were Kathleen Green, May Grice, Audrey Bailey, Vera Holmes, Irene Howarth, Janet Green, Doreen Bellamy, Tommy Grice, Betty Johnson, Eileen Bailey and Joyce Green. Sister Rita F. Hardy, Primary president, and her counsellors, Sisters Arvilla Smith and Mabel Bailey, supervised the presentation, witnessed by 64 members and friends.

**Nottingham** — Sunday School children were entertained at a social in Nottingham branch hall Saturday, February 8. Children par-

ticipated on a programme, which was followed by games. Sister Dorothy Robinson of the superintendency was in charge of the affair, planned by Sunday School officers.

Leicester branch has benefited from the labours of Sister Elizabeth Cornwall, Mission Primary supervisor, and Sister Laura Dimler during their recent visit. They have aided in a Primary conference and Gleaner and Genealogical Society socials.

**Personals**—Sister Queenie Gladys Wathall, daughter of Mr. S. H. and Sister Alice Wathall of Derby branch, was married to Mr. Stanley Burch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burch of Cliff Farm, Nethersgate, Saturday, February 8, in Derby Cathedral. Carrying a sheaf of arum lilies, the bride wore a satin dress with an embroidered net veil and a wreath of orange blossoms. The bridesmaids, Mrs. Clive Clements and Miss Kitty Arnson, wore cherry red velvet and muffs bearing sprays of snowdrops. Mr. Horace R. Wathall, brother of the bride, was best man, and the bride was given away by her father. A reception followed in Derby Conservative rooms.

## DEATH

JAMISON—Brother John Jamison, branch), passed away Friday, February 14.

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